



2022 Awarding National Qualifications: Supporting learners as Covid disruption continues

Questions & Answers

Updated 13 January 2022

When will a decision on moving to Scenario 2 be made and on what basis?

Given the current levels of disruption, a decision is likely to be made soon based on information such as national teacher and pupil absence levels. That information, which is provided weekly to the Covid-19 Education Recovery Group, chaired by the Scottish Government, will inform SQA's decision to move to Scenario 2.

When will learners, parents and centres be told that a decision has been made?

If the decision is taken to move to Scenario 2 then this decision will be communicated to centres, learners and parents/carers as soon as is practicable and further advice made available on the types of revision support that will be provided. For some courses, this would be in the form of advice and guidance on what topics learners should focus their revision on to maximise their performance in exams.

When will centres, learners and parents/carers be given the revision support materials?

Learners will be given the support materials in March to aid their revision ahead of the Easter holidays. We will endeavour to give you early notice of the support materials for each exam so you can support your learners. It is important that this information is not provided too far in advance to avoid the narrowing of learning and teaching which will negatively impact learners' breadth of course knowledge/understanding and the next steps in their learning.

What will centres need to do?

Revision support is primarily aimed at learners but as you are aware you have a critical role to play in supporting your learners and helping them understand how to use the support materials to maximise their exam performance.

What additional support will be given to centres and learners impacted by significant staff and/or pupil isolation?

It is important to remember that the significant modifications already made to courses this year are designed to address the ongoing disruption to learning and teaching. Additional revision support, if provided, would provide further support.

If exams are cancelled when will that decision be made and communicated?

Exams will not be cancelled unless public health restrictions mean that physical gatherings are not permitted at the time of exams. This decision cannot be taken until nearer the time when the public health situation is clear.

Will modifications be made to the timing of exams if the current situation continues to give centres/learners more time to catch up on learning/topics missed due to illness/ isolation?

No. The timing of the exams cannot be moved for a range of reasons, including allowing sufficient time for marking and informing learners of their results in good time to make decisions about their next steps.

Will modifications be made to actual examination papers if the current situation continues to give centres and learners pupils more time to catch up on learning and teaching missed due to illness/ isolation?

No but the revision support, if provided, will help learners focus their revision and maximise their performance in exams.

If the Scottish Government cancels the exams due to public health restrictions at the time of exams, ‘evidence gathered through normal in-year assessment to determine learners’ estimates can be used to form the basis of their provisional results” What does this mean? Is it just practice exams/ prelims or can it be class assessments etc?

Advice on this was provided to centres last term in [SQA's refreshed estimates guidance](#).